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CALIFORNIA'S HEALTH

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DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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VOLUME 4, NUMBER 21 MAY 15, 1947 ANN WILSON HAYNES, Editor
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MEETING OF WESTERN BRANCH, APHA

Western Branch, American Public Health Association, will hold its first meeting since the start of World War II in San Francisco, May 27th-29th. Meetings will be held in Polk Hall, Civic Auditorium, and headquarters for the convention will be the Hotel Whitcomb, Market Street at Eighth Street.

Preconvention meetings of professional groups will be held on Sunday and Monday, May 25th and 26th. The program for one of these meetings, the Health Education Conference sponsored by the Far West Regional Committee, Public Health Education Section, APHA, is printed in this issue following the program of the general meetings.

Members of other sections of the APHA and the public are invited to attend the Health Education Conference which will be held in the Green Room, Furniture Exchange Building, 1355 Market Street.

PROGRAM, WESTERN BRANCH, APHA

TUESDAY, May 27, 9 a.m.

Preparation for Public Health

Chairman, DR. WALTER BROWN, San Francisco

1. Undergraduate Training in Medical Schools for Public Health
   Dr. C. E. Smith, Stanford University Medical School
2. Is Public Health Graduate Training Intellectually Respectable?
   H. D. Chope, M.D., Dr. P.H., San Joaquin Local Health District
3. Graduate Training in the West—A symposium
   Physicians—Dr. Ned Rodgers, Dean, U. C. School of Public Health
   Engineers—Mr. Harold B. Gotaas, U. C. School of Public Health
   Health Education—Dr. Dorothy Nyswander, U. C. School of Public Health
   Nursing—Miss Mary Dunn, U. S. Public Health Service
4. The Work of the Committee on Professional Education
   Dr. Reginald Atwater, A.P.H.A., New York

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 2 p.m.

Mental Health and Geriatrics in a Public Health Program

Chairman, DR. HARVARD KAUFMAN, Seattle

1. Mental Health Programs on the National Level—U. S. Public Health Service
2. Mental Health Programs on the State and Local Level
   Dr. Kent A. Zimmerman, San Francisco
3. The Place of Geriatrics in the Modern Public Health Program
   Dr. Lester Breslow, San Francisco
4. Reaching the Community with a Cancer Control Program
   Dr. A. M. Popma, Boise, Idaho
5. Public Health Aspects of Cardiac Disease
   Dr. Howard West, Los Angeles

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 8 p.m.

First General Business Meeting

Presidential Address—DR. K. F. MEYER, San Francisco

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 9 a.m.

Public Health Administration

Chairman, DR. WILTON HALVERSON, San Francisco

1. Promotion of Local Health Service in Colorado
   Dr. Florence Sabin, Denver, Colorado
2. Financing Local Health Services
   Dr. Malcolm Merrill, San Francisco
   Discussion—Dr. J. A. Kahl, Seattle
3. Hospital and Health Center Surveys in Washington
   Dr. Arthur L. Ringle, Seattle
   Discussion—Dr. Philip K. Gilman, San Francisco
4. Extending Local Health Service
   Dr. L. J. Lull, Boise, Idaho
5. Health Unit Development in British Columbia
   Dr. J. S. Cull, Victoria, B. C.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2 p.m.

Housing and Community Planning

Chairman, MR. C. EVERTS, Portland, Oregon

1. Community Planning in the West
   Mr. Richard Graves, League of California Cities
2. The Program of the National Sanitation Foundation
   Dr. R. V. Stone, Los Angeles
3. The Los Angeles Housing Survey
   Mr. Charles Senn, Los Angeles
4. Responsibility of the Health Department for Sub-standard Housing
   Dr. Richard Lee and Mr. Francis Woo
5. Follow-up of Housing Surveys—What Can Be Done With the Data?
   Mr. Allan A. Twitchell, A.P.H.A., New York

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 7.30 p.m. ANNUAL BANQUET

International Health Organization

DR. THOMAS PARRAN, Surgeon General, U. S. Public Health Service

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 9 a.m.

Communicable Diseases

DR. LOUIS GEBHARDT, Salt Lake City

1. Disease of Animals Transmitted to Man
   Dr. James H. Steele, U. S. Public Health Service
2. Diarrhea of the New Born in Hospitals
   Dr. W. R. Giedt, Seattle
   Discussion—Dr. Anthony Rourke, San Francisco
3. Reevaluation of Present Methods of Communicable Disease Control
   Dr. Norman Nelson, Los Angeles
4. Modern Problems of International Quarantine
   Dr. G. L. Dunnahoo, U. S. Public Health Service
   Discussion—Dr. Rodney Beard, San Francisco
5. Diagnostic Procedures in Virus Infections
   Dr. W. McD. Hammon, San Francisco

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2 P.M.

Western Branch Final Round-Up

The program committee has planned the last session of the meeting according to a pattern familiar to those who have attended previous meetings of Western Branch.

Persons in attendance at any of the sessions are encouraged to submit questions in writing which will be presented to a panel made up of selected persons of those belonging to the Western Branch and from the visiting speakers. The tradition is one of free speech with no holds barred. The test of success will be audience participation both in the questions and in the discussion.

The object will not be merely a summary of the past or an attempt to stump the experts, but rather to look ahead and plot our programs of the future with the assistance of some of the best intellects in the country.

The interlocutor will be Reginald M. Atwater, M.D., Executive Secretary, American Public Health Association, New York.

PROGRAM, HEALTH EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Theme: Pioneering Health Education in the West

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 10 A.M.

How Voluntary and Official Agencies Can Work Together in a Health Education Program

Chairman, Dr. Howard Lundy, Seattle

Panel Leader, Dr. Harold Chope, Stockton

1. Presentation of Problems
   Voluntary Agencies—Dr. Florence Sabin, Denver
   Health Departments—Evelyn Rahn, Denver
   School Departments—Dr. Bernice Moss, San Francisco
2. Discussants
   Elizabeth Adler, Oakland
   Dr. Rodney Beard, San Francisco
   Marjorie Eastabrooks, Seattle
   Cecyl Havelin, Los Angeles
   Dr. H. S. Hoyman, Eugene, Oregon

SUNDAY, MAY 25, 2 P.M.

Meeting the Inservice Training Problem

Chairman, Dr. Edward S. Rogers, Berkeley

1. Keynote Address, Dr. George Palmer, San Francisco
2. Staff Orientation
   Carol H. Bloomfield, San Francisco
   Majorie Brush, San Francisco
3. Specialized Training
   Jane Airth, San Francisco
   Fannie Warncke, Oakland
   Levitte Mendel, San Jose

MONDAY, MAY 26, 10 A.M.

The Health Educator as a Community Worker

Chairman, Dr. C. Martin Mills, Richmond

Socio-drama
Narrator—Dr. Dorothy Nyswander, Berkeley

MONDAY, MAY 26, 2 P.M.

Chairman, Evelyn Rahm, Denver

Progress Reports

Alaska	Mary Hurley
Arizona	Frank Williams
California	Ann Wilson Haynes
Colorado	Helen L. Burke
Hawaii	Ruth Ackland
Idaho	Maurine Peterson
Nevada	Julia Dimond
New Mexico	
Montana	K. Elizabeth Anderson
Oregon	Roscoe Miller
Philippines	Rafael Baltazar
Utah	Joseph Carling
Washington	Howard Lundy

NEW HEALTH EDUCATION MATERIALS

A new film and a new pamphlet are available from the Bureau of Health Education, State Department of Public Health.

The new film now available on loan from the Bureau is *What Makes Us Grow?*, a 16 mm., 11 minute, sound picture produced by the National Film Board of Canada.

Dealing with the general nutrition of children, the picture shows the importance of body-building and protein foods. It is well suited for youthful audiences and parent groups.

The new pamphlet is *Gonorrhea—Its Cause, Spread, Cure* a three-fold leaflet produced by the United States Public Health Service.

"FAMILY LIFE" CONFERENCE

A cooperative conference on *Family Life, Health, and Social Relations* has been scheduled for May 22nd in San Francisco by the Ministers' Fellowship of the San Francisco Council of Churches and the City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health.

The conference will emphasize the church's role in family relations education.

HEALTH OFFICER CHANGES

Public health activities in the cities of Bakersfield (Kern County) and Coachella (Riverside County) are now under the supervision of their respective county health departments.

Dr. Peter J. Cuneo was formerly health officer of Bakersfield. Coachella is a newly incorporated area.

DEPARTMENT ESTABLISHES ANNUAL MUSSEL QUARANTINE

The annual quarantine order of the State Department of Public Health forbidding the gathering of mussels from all ocean and bay waters of California became effective May 1st.

The quarantine extends from Oregon to the Mexican boundary. It will remain effective until October 31st and is being enforced by local health officers.

Despite the fact that the quarantine is put into effect annualy during the summer months, cases and deaths among those who violate the order are usually reported to the State Department of Public Health each year. In 1946, three cases of mussel poisoning and one death were reported from San Mateo County.

Tabulations of mussel poisoning cases and deaths in California each year since 1927 when the condition first became reportable and the counties from which the cases were reported are given below:

CASES AND DEATHS

Mussel Poisoning, California, 1927-1946

Year	*Cases*	*Deaths*
1927	102	6
1928	0	0
1929	55	1
1930	2	0
1931	2	0
1932	40	2
1933	12	0
1934	0	0
1935	0	0
1936	3	2
1937	27	0
1938	3	0
1939	64	6
1940	0	0
1941	0	0
1942	0	0
1943	20	4
1944	12	2
1945	0	0
1946	3	1
Totals	345	24

Mussel Poisoning, by Counties, California, 1927-1946

County	*Cases*	*Deaths*
Del Norte	9	0
Humboldt	16	4
Marin	63	2
Mendocino	1	0
Monterey	91	6
San Mateo	110	8
Santa Cruz	8	0
Sonoma	39	1
Ventura	6	2
California*	2	1
Totals	345	24

* Those cases wherein the county from which the shellfish came was not definitely known.

The Blue Cross hospital service plans which provide for prepayment of hospitalization on the basis of voluntary insurance have about 23 million members in the United States.—*Blue Cross Bulletin,* Sept.-Oct., 1946.

DR. W. F. FENTON DIES

Dr. W. F. Fenton, who has been associated with public health activities in California for many years, died on March 24, 1947, while examining school children in San Bernardino.

Dr. Fenton was the first full-time health officer of San Bernardino County and organized public health activities in the county during the 10 years he served in that position.

Dr. Fenton retired as health officer last year to become school physician for San Bernardino city. Previously he had been in private practice in San Bernardino and had been employed by the U. S. Public Health Service.

NEW SEWAGE TREATMENT EQUIPMENT INSTALLED IN L. A.

New sewage treatment equipment—the largest electrically controlled chlorination installation in the world—has been put into operation by the City of Los Angeles.

The Bureau of Sanitary Engineering of the State Department is cooperating with the City of Los Angeles in collecting and analyzing bacteriological samples from a network of stations along the beaches of Santa Monica Bay to test the efficiency of the new apparatus in preventing pollution of beaches and Bay waters. On the basis of these studies the department will consider possible modification of the state quarantine of more than 10 miles of beaches.

POSTGRADUATE COURSES OFFERED AT U. C. MEDICAL CENTER

Four postgraduate courses for physicians are announced by the University of California Medical School. Courses and dates follow:

Course	*Date*
Orientation in Clinical Allergy	July 7-11
Obstetrics and Gynecology	September 1-5
Otorhinolaryngology	September 8-12
Ophthalmolgy	September 15-19

These are continuation courses for general practitioners of medicine. The subject matter will consist of clinical case demonstrations, discussions on the new methods of diagnosis and of medical and surgical treatment.

Further information may be obtained from Stacy R. Mettier, M.D., Head of Postgraduate Instruction, Medical Extension, University of California Medical Center, San Francisco 22, California.

NATIONAL HEALTH ACT INTRODUCED IN CONGRESS BY SENATOR TAFT

The "National Health Act of 1947" (SB 545) has been introduced into the Congress by Senators Taft, Smith, Ball and Donnell and has been referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, of which Senator Taft is chairman.*

The bill provides for the creation of a National Health Agency, funds for state surveys of health services, medical and dental examinations of school children, medical and dental care for the indigent, dental research and cancer diagnostic clinics.

NATIONAL HEALTH AGENCY

An independent federal agency, known as the National Health Agency, would be created under the direction of a National Health Administrator who must be an outstanding physician and would be appointed by the President.

The following agencies and their functions would be transferred to the National Health Agency: Public Health Service; Food and Drug Administration; health services of the Children's Bureau; Division of Health Studies in the Bureau of Research and Statistics of the Social Security Administration; and St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

Specifically excluded are the health functions of the armed services and the Veterans' Administration.

MEDICAL SERVICES

A new title (Title VII) is added to the Public Health Service Act. The program would be administered on the federal level by the Office of Medical and Hospital Care of the National Health Agency under a director who must be an outstanding physician with at least five years of active medical practice.

An appropriation of $3,000,000 is authorized to assist the states to make an inventory of all existing general health, hospital and medical services and to prepare a detailed plan for the extension of these services. The survey must be made by a single state agency. Federal funds would be appropriated on a per capita basis up to one-third of the State's cost for making the survey and formulating a program.

The bill authorizes an annual appropriation of $200,000,000 for five years beginning July 1, 1947 to assist states in carrying out plans for providing general health, hospital and medical services for persons having insufficient income to pay the whole cost of such services. A formula provides for grants to states in proportion to population and also in inverse relation to per capita income.

In order to receive funds a state plan must be approved by the Director of Medical and Hospital Care Services and must include the following mandatory services:

1. Hospital, surgical and medical services for all families and individuals having insufficient income to pay the whole cost of such services;
2. Periodic physical examinations without charge for all children in public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools in the State.

Except for examinations of school children, the bill provides there must be a means test to determine eligibility for services. A single state agency must be designated to administer or supervise administration and by 1949 that agency must be the state health agency.

Certain optional services are permitted, including payments to physicians practicing in areas which otherwise would be unable to provide sufficient income to attract practicing physicians.

DENTAL SERVICES

A new title (Title VIII) is added to the Public Health Service Act to be administered by the Office of Dental Care Services of the National Health Agency under a director who must be a doctor of dental surgery with at least 10 years of active practice.

An appropriation of $1,000,000 is authorized for state surveys of dental services. Annual appropriations for a five-year period to assist states in providing dental health services are graduated from $8,000,000 for the first to $20,000,000 for the fourth and fifth years.

Mandatory services are the following:

1. Dental care and treatment of dental diseases and dental defects, including prophylaxis, filling, X-ray, extraction, and related care other than straightening, of the teeth of such pupils whose family or guardian have insufficient income to pay for the whole cost of such service.
2. Periodic inspection, without charge, of the teeth of all children in the elementary and secondary grades of public and nonpublic schools.

Other provisions for dental services are the same or similar to those for medical care.

DENTAL RESEARCH

The bill calls for the creation of the National Institute of Dental Research as a permanent division of the National Institute of Health and a $2,000,000 appropriation is authorized for buildings and equipment. In addition, funds ranging from $250,000 the first year to

* Source: Social Legislation Information Service, Inc. Bulletin, February 21, 1947.

$600,000 the third year are authorized for dental research and training.

CANCER CONTROL

An appropriation of $10,000,000 a year is authorized for grants-in-aid to states and localities for cancer diagnostic clinics and for related services in the control of cancer, including training of personnel for state and local health work.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH INSURANCE

The bill provides that any federal employee who wishes may direct the Federal Government to make pay roll deductions to cover the payment of premiums to any voluntary nonprofit health insurance fund.

J. D. ZELLERBACH ON HEART COMMITTEE

J. D. Zellerbach of San Francisco, president of the Crown Zellerbach Paper Company, has been named on the National Advisory Committee of the American Heart Association.

The 22-man advisory committee was chosen under a plan of reorganization allowing for the admission of nonphysicians to the executive bodies of the association. Appointments were previously limited to specialists in the field of the diseases of the heart and circulation.

Mr. Zellerbach was the only representative of the Pacific Coast named to the committee.

TYPE A INFLUENZA PRESENT

Type A influenza was present in California during the early spring months. Typing was done in the virus laboratory of the State Department of Public Health. Specimens were obtained from students of the University of California at Berkeley and in military establishments in Solano, Yuba and Sutter Counties.

Influenza was also reported from Inyo, Kern, Kings and Plumas Counties.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Dr. Ellarene L. MacCoy, formerly district medical officer of the Los Angeles area for the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health, has resigned after serving the Department of Public Health for over 11 years.

For the present, Dr. MacCoy has accepted a teaching position with the University of California at Los Angeles. During her service with this department she was active in helping to bring into focus the factors influencing the health of Mexican children and pointed the way for the provision of services for these groups.

ANNUAL COUNT OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES COMPLETED

A total of 1,632 nurses are now engaged in public health nursing in California. This represents an increase of 125 over figures for 1946.

Nurses now participating in industrial nursing total 530, up 149 from last year.

These figures were obtained as a result of the annual count and study of educational qualifications of nurses engaged in public health and industrial nursing conducted by the Bureau of Public Health Nursing of the State Department of Public Health.

The count of public health nurses included those employed by health departments, school departments, visiting nurse associations and other official and nonofficial agencies.

Comparison of several items from the reports for 1946 and 1947 are given below.

Although the number of public health nurses have increased in California during the past year, a great many vacancies still exist in public health nursing positions in the State (*California's Health,* February 15, 1946.)

The ratio of public health nurses employed by all agencies to general population in California shows a variation of from one nurse per 1,820 residents in one sparsely settled mountain area to one nurse for more than 15,000 persons in four more thickly populated counties. The ratio for the entire State is one nurse per 6,015 persons. A ratio of one nurse per 5,000 population is considered the standard for minimum effective service where bedside nursing is not included.

Five counties in California are still without any public health nursing service.

In order to balance the unequal distribution of nurses, many agencies are analyzing their programs and trying to make better use of existing nursing services.

COUNT AND STUDY OF EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND INDUSTRIAL NURSES IN CALIFORNIA, 1947, COMPARED WITH 1946

Public Health Nurses	*1946*	*1947*
Total number of nurses engaged in public health nursing in California	1,507	1,632
Total number of agencies employing public health nurses	337	356
Percentage of nurses from whom data on educational qualifications were obtained	92.7	94.8
Percentage of nurses who completed public health nursing curriculum	35.4	35.2
Industrial Nurses		
Total number engaged in industrial nursing	383	530
Total number of industries employing nurses	238	300
Percentage of nurses from whom data or educational qualifications were obtained	83.3	59.1
Percentage who have had some university training in public health or industrial nursing	21.6	22.4

1946 A RECORD YEAR FOR BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES IN CALIFORNIA

Births, deaths, and marriages zoomed to all-time highs in California during 1946.

Principally as a result of the State's population increases, provisional figures of live births registered with the Vital Statistics Section of the State Department of Public Health rose to a record high of 215,914 last year as compared to the 1945 figure of 183,412. The provisional birth rate was 23.2 live births per 1,000 population in 1946. The 1945 rate was 20.2.

Total figures for deaths and marriages also reached the highest level in the State's history. Recorded in 1946 were 94,640 deaths, up more than a thousand from the 93,153 figure reported in 1945. The death rate was actually lowered, however, from the 11.3 deaths per 1,000 population in 1945 to a rate of 10.2 (provisional) in 1946. Marriages totaled 108,050 last year, topping by a substantial number the 102,862 marriages of 1945. Marriage rates were 11.6 per 1,000 population in 1946 and 11.3 in 1945.

For the United States as a whole, the 3,260,000 live births provisionally reported by the Vital Statistics Section of the Federal Security Administration for 1946 also established a new record. The previous high had been in 1943 when 2,934,860 births were reported. The rate for 1946 was 23.3 births per 1,000 population in 1946, 19.6 in 1945 and 21.3 in 1943, the previous high.

Total number of deaths in the United States dropped from 1,401,719 in 1945 to 1,400,000 for 1946. Rates were 10.6 deaths per 1,000 population in 1945 and 10.1 in 1946.

HEART ASSOCIATION TO EXPAND RESEARCH PROGRAM

Emphasizing that diseases of the heart and circulation are responsible for one out of every three deaths in this country, the American Heart Association has announced an expanded research program in coronary diseases and rheumatic fever.

One hundred local heart associations, in addition to those already organized, will be established in key cities to carry forward this program.

In making the announcement, Thomas I. Parkinson, chairman of the National Advisory Committee of the Association said: "The need for intensive research in such neglected fields as hypertension, coronary diseases and rheumatic fever, is readily apparent. To reduce the toll taken by the heart diseases, it is essential that the results of such research be made available to individuals in every American community."

BRUCELLOSIS STILL SERIOUS PROBLEM IN MANY AREAS

Brucellosis (sometimes called undulant fever) remains a serious problem in certain areas of California. During this year intensive investigations of all reported cases is being made by the Acute Communicable Diseases Service to learn the exact extent and nature of the problem and how it can be best solved.

This disease has shown a steady increase in California from 15 known cases when it was first made reportable in 1927 to 289 known cases in 1946.

Although some of this increase may be due to a better understanding of the disease on the part of physicians, improved laboratory diagnostic methods, and extension of diagnostic laboratory services, the high number of cases in 1946 indicates the need for increased control measures.

Brucellosis was reported throughout the State last year from 40 counties, including: 87 cases in Los Angeles County, 22 in San Bernardino County, 14 in Riverside County, 11 in San Francisco County.

The disease is an infection with organisms of the Brucella group. Clinically it may be confused with typhoid fever, tuberculosis, infectious arthritis, malaria, subacute bacterial endocarditis, and many other conditions. As a rule, the diagnosis can be made only with the aid of the laboratory. While few people die of brucellosis, it nevertheless is serious because of the fact that it has a tendency to be chronic and convalescence often extends into months and even years.

Human infection occurs through direct contact with infected tissues of cattle, hogs or goats, or through the medium of milk or milk products.

Control of brucellosis involves the elimination of infection from susceptible animals and the pasteurization of all milk supplies.

It has been estimated that at least two-thirds of all the patients having brucellosis in California contracted their infection through the use of raw milk or raw milk products. The pasteurization of all milk products would, therefore, eliminate two-thirds of our cases.

The State Department of Agriculture is also vitally interested in this problem as it relates to infection in cattle. That department conducts a program of voluntary vaccination in which the Division of Laboratories assists by testing vaccines. A bill which has been proposed at the present session of the State Legislature (A. B. 989) would make mandatory the vaccination of all female dairy calves within the State.

(*Editor's Note*—An excellent review article on this subject by Alice C. Evans may be found in the February 1947 issue of the *American Journal of Public Health*. The paper is entitled, ("Brucellosis in the United States.")

RICHMOND GROUPS JOIN IN MASS CHEST X-RAY SURVEY

Utilizing the 70 mm. X-ray equipment of the State Department of Public Health, the citizens of Richmond have completed the first phase of an all-out program to chest X-ray as many as possible of the adult population of their city.

The mass survey, sponsored jointly by the Richmond Health Department, the Richmond Citizens Health Committee, and the Tuberculosis Service of the State Department of Public Health, was held during the three-month period—January through March.

Responsibilities in the project were shared by participating groups. The actual X-raying and film reading was done by the Tuberculosis Service. Health education and publicity activities were carried out by the Citizens Health Committee with the assistance of the health educator in the local health department. Follow-up of cases was the responsibility of the public health nurses of the city health department.

During the first two weeks of the survey over 3,000 people had been X-rayed. By the end of the first month this figure had risen to 4,500. The three-month total was 8,522.

On further examinations of persons of this group with suspicious findings, 73 cases of tuberculosis previously unknown to the health department were discovered. Fifty-two percent of these cases were in a minimal stage of the disease, 15 percent were moderately advanced, and 6 percent were diagnosed as far advanced tuberculosis.

Plans have been formulated to X-ray employees of Richmond's large industries with the mobile equipment at a later date.

ADVICE TO PHYSICIANS—VINTAGE 1100

A guide book for doctors written about the year 1100 in Salerno, Italy, under the title *The Physician's Visit* gave this advice to the doctor: "When called, commend yourself to God and the angel who guided Tobias * * *. Learn as much as you can from the messenger so you may astonish your patient by your knowledge of the case. When you arrive, sit down, take a drink and speak of the beauty of the country and the house * * *. Next feel the patient's pulse, but remember that it may be affected by your arrival, or by the patient's thinking of the terrible cost of your visit. Tell the patient you will cure him, with God's help, but tell his friends that the case is very serious." Quoted from card distributed by the Nevada State Health Department which adds this note, "And how about reporting your infectious cases * * * ?"

CLASS PROGRAM GUIDE FOR CHILDREN OF "LOWERED VITALITY" ISSUED

Climaxing a continuous 10 year study of children of "lowered vitality," three health and education agencies of New York City have issued a summary of their findings in a report entitled *Study Guide for Individual and Class Program for Children of "Lowered Vitality."*

In this report the authors have "made an effort to suggest the activities, environment, the facilities and services, as well as the relationships necessary to provide a satisfactory health and school program for children of this type."

Topics covered in the study guide include: Identification, selection, treatment and follow-up of children with "lowered vitality;" promotion and development of healthful living; nutrition; curriculum planning; physical facilities; and specialized services and personnel.

Sponsoring agencies of the project were the New York City Board of Education and Department of Health, and the Department of Educational Nursing of the Community Service Society.

Copies of the report may be obtained for 50 cents from the latter agency at 105 East 22d Street, New York 10, New York.

SOCIAL HYGIENE ASSOCIATION REVIEWS YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

Education and the suppression of prostitution formed the basic activities of the California Social Hygiene Association during 1946, Lawrence Arnstein, executive secretary, recently reported at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the association.

Activities of the association last year included:

1. Education of the public in the recognition and cure of venereal disease. Much of this work was accomplished through industry and labor unions in cooperation with official health agencies.
2. Cooperation with State and local agencies in helping the home and school to recognize and meet their responsibilities in this field. This phase of the program included special courses on family relations in San Francisco, which were attended by over 6,000 persons; co-sponsorship with other agencies of a course on "Family Life" which will be offered at the University of California this summer and is financed by a grant from the Rosenberg Foundation; mobilization of support for San Francisco's psychiatric clinic and programs for the care of children of working mothers.
3. Backing authorities wherever possible in the continued suppression of prostitution.

POLIOMYELITIS BULLETIN DISTRIBUTED THROUGH SCHOOLS

An educational program to inform parents of the facts concerning poliomyelitis before the summer season when the incidence of this disease reaches its peak is announced by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

The foundation has prepared a one-page bulletin entitled *A Message to Parents About Infantile Paralysis,* which is being distributed through the nation's 30,000,000 school children.

"Facts about Fears," "Precautions to Take," and some reassuring facts concerning treatment of cases are topics included in the subject matter.

The bulletin is not available from this Department. It is being distributed directly to school children by the foundation.

LOCAL HEART ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Heart advisory committees of local Tuberculosis and Health Associations are now functioning in 17 California counties.

The counties are: Contra Costa, Humboldt, Kern, Los Angeles, Merced, Monterey, Orange, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, and Ventura.

A heart advisory committee also has been organized in the City of Pasadena.

VISITING NURSE SERVICE INAUGURATED

A visiting nursing service has recently been inaugurated in the City of Santa Cruz.

Other communities which are working on plans to develop visiting nursing services are Claremont, Santa Maria, and Ventura.

PHYSICIAN'S BULLETIN ISSUED

The Santa Clara County Health Department has inaugurated an excellent monthly publication known as the *Physician's Bulletin.*

The bulletin will attempt "to keep the physicians of the county informed as to the latest developments in the field of public health."

Cancer control is a major challenge not only to the medical profession, but to the lay public as well * * * even in the present state of knowledge and medical practice, many thousands of lives could be saved annually by earlier diagnosis and treatment.—Statistical Bulletin, July, 1945, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

MUMPS VIRUS STRAIN OBTAINED

A strain of mumps virus, obtained by the Division of Laboratories from the Harvard University Medical School, has been established in chick embryos at the Virus Laboratory of the State Department of Public Health.

The virus will be used in laboratory tests to investigate the possibility that some encephalitis cases of unknown etiology reported in California may be attributed to infection with mumps virus.

CALIFORNIA MORBIDITY REPORTS
SELECTED DISEASES—CIVILIAN CASES
Total Cases for March and Total Cases for January Through March, 1947, 1946, 1945 and Five-year Median (1942-1946)

Selected diseases	Current month				Cumulative			
	March				January through March			
	1947	1946	1945	5-yr. median 1942-1946	1947	1946	1945	5-yr. median 1942-1946
Chickenpox (varicella)	6,489	3,875	7,084	6,739	15,718	9,568	18,730	16,245
Coccidioidal granuloma	2	8	1	------	11	13	10	------
Conjunctivitis—acute infections of the newborn (ophthalmia neonatorum)	------	5	1	------	4	12	5	------
Diphtheria	73	109	87	109	305	397	367	364
Dysentery, bacillary	14	23	20	------	34	56	92	------
Encephalitis, infectious	5	5	3	5	16	10	16	10
Epilepsy	141	141	174	------	442	397	413	------
Food poisoning	16	9	44	------	116	106	67	------
German measles (rubella)	311	2,526	1,746	------	674	4,820	3,933	------
Influenza, epidemic	205	437	82	428	362	4,870	322	1,530
Jaundice, infectious	7	16	28	------	30	59	77	------
Malaria	9	79	14	7	32	274	32	20
Measles (rubeola)	981	12,633	4,676	11,357	2,482	23,269	9,593	15,490
Meningitis, meningococcic	27	55	87	87	95	235	253	253
Mumps (parotitis)	2,170	2,553	5,500	5,084	5,370	7,311	14,094	10,640
Pneumonia, infectious	122	301	394	394	615	1,011	1,400	1,400
Poliomyelitis, acute anterior	45	24	7	18	174	98	34	60
Rabies, animal	26	30	61	61	78	102	132	156
Rheumatic fever	90	55	77	------	217	190	------	210
Scarlet fever	629	840	1,546	840	1,862	2,911	5,012	2,911
Septic sore throat	85	------	------	------	183	------	------	------
Smallpox (variola)	1	4	------	1	2	7	------	4
Tuberculosis								
Pulmonary	705	567	589	589	2,107	1,746	1,817	1,817
Other forms	60	26	47	39	145	100	136	110
Typhoid fever	10	14	3	14	18	33	18	33
Typhus fever	1	6	2	------	10	14	13	------
Undulant fever (brucellosis)	20	21	16	17	54	71	59	53
Whooping cough (pertussis)	746	373	1,455	1,403	1,761	1,411	3,728	3,508
Venereal Diseases								
Chancroid	68	34	24	------	179	100	66	------
Gonococcus infection	2,493	2,421	2,283	1,778	8,424	7,650	6,580	4,363
Granuloma inguinale	12	3	4	------	23	6	16	------
Lymphogranuloma venereum	17	12	25	------	60	49	62	------
Syphilis	2,095	1,952	2,400	2,400	6,616	6,011	7,055	6,980

Unequal development in different countries in the promotion of health and control of disease, especially communicable disease, is a common danger.—*Constitution of The World Health Organization.*

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